

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1.     **(Currently amended)** An arm type valve gear wherein an engaging hole is formed in an arm pivoted by the rotation of a cam at its end on the pivoting side to push down a valve stem through a lash adjuster mounted in the engaging hole, wherein said lash adjuster comprises a nut member received in said engaging hole, an adjuster screw having male threads on the outer periphery thereof that are in threaded engagement with female threads formed on the inner periphery of said nut member, an elastic body for biasing said adjuster screw toward said valve stem, a ball joint having its upper portion joined to said nut member so as not to rotate relative to ~~it~~ said nut member, while supporting the bottom end of said adjuster screw, and said ball joint having its bottom end face in surface contact with the top end face of said valve stem, and ~~that wherein~~ the female threads of said nut member and the male threads of said adjuster screw are serration-shaped such that pressure flanks which bear axial push-in force applied from said valve stem to said adjuster screw have a greater flank angle than clearance flanks.

2.     **(Original)** An arm type valve gear as claimed in claim 1 wherein said ball joint comprises a disk-shaped spacer mounted in a cylindrical portion provided at a lower portion of said nut member and supported so as not to be rotatable but axially movable, a spherical holder having its outer peripheral portion in engagement with said cylindrical portion to prevent said spacer from falling, a pusher held by said holder so as to be bendable and having its bottom end face in surface contact with the top end face of said valve stem, and a ball mounted between said pusher and said spacer, and wherein recessed spherical seats in which part of said ball is received are formed on the bottom surface of said spacer and the top surface of said pusher.

3.     **(Original)** An arm type valve gear as claimed in claim 1 wherein said engaging hole is a stepped hole, a spring washer in the shape of a stepped tube which is inserted in said engaging hole is pressed onto the outer periphery of an upper portion of said nut member, and an elastic body

comprising a coil spring is mounted between an end plate provided at an upper portion of said spring washer and having a hole and the top end face of said adjuster screw.

4.     **(Original)** An arm type valve gear as claimed in claim 2 wherein said engaging hole is a stepped hole, a spring washer in the shape of a stepped tube which is inserted in said engaging hole is pressed onto the outer periphery of an upper portion of said nut member, and an elastic body comprising a coil spring is mounted between an end plate provided at an upper portion of said spring washer and having a hole and the top end face of said adjuster screw.